



# Crop Progress and Condition

**USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office**  
Herman Ellison, State Statistician  
P. O. Box 1659  
Richmond, VA 23218-1659  
(804) 771-2493  
**Homepage:** <http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

**In Cooperation with:**  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
Virginia Tech  
Virginia State University  
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service  
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Released: April 8, 2019

Issue: 05-19

**Agricultural News:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.4. Precipitation was up from the previous week, the soil is moist and crops are being planted. Farming activities for the week included preparing tobacco beds, spreading manure, and reseeding overgrazed pastures.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/07/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	1	8	82	9
Subsoil	1	5	76	18

- Represents zero.

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/07/19

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	-	8	35	52	5
Hay, Alfalfa	-	8	40	50	2
Hay, Other	-	5	43	51	1
Winter Wheat	-	5	29	56	10
Pasture	3	30	46	20	1

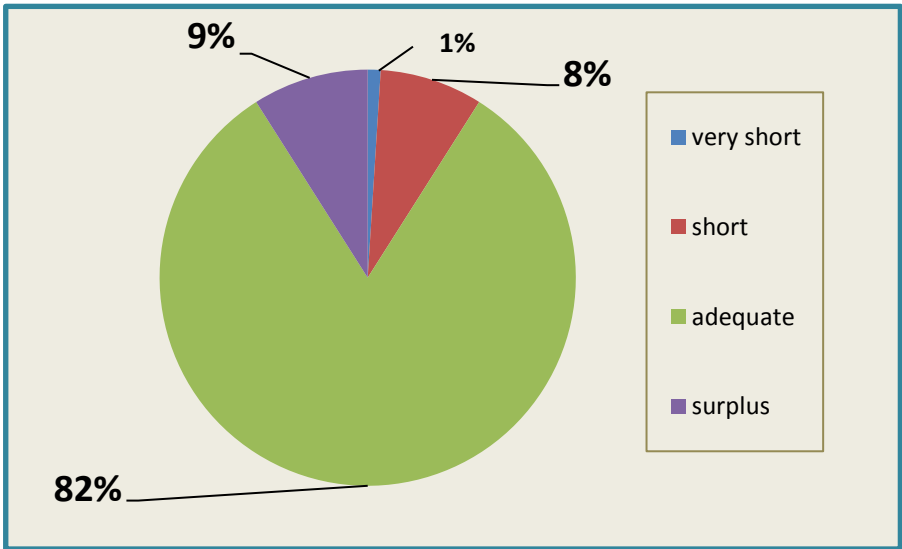
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 04/07/19

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn planted	1	-	-	-
Potatoes, Summer planted	20	10	42	42

- Represents data not available.

Topsoil moisture for week ending 04/07/19



Weather Summary- For the week ending April 7, 2019

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Apr. 6	Mar. 1 to Apr. 6 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	61	35	73	25	48	-3	173	171	0.45	3.98	-0.54	11.63	0.45
Norfolk	60	44	72	35	52	-1	200	192	0.75	3.13	-1.68	11.63	-0.48
Richmond	61	38	71	30	50	-3	196	209	0.65	4.51	-0.28	12.12	0.80
Roanoke	64	38	73	27	51	-1	193	NA	0.52	2.33	-2.23	10.85	0.00
Wash/Dulles	60	34	70	27	47	-1	140	NA	0.36	4.88	0.68	12.34	2.31

\* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA-Not available. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

**REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY –** Comments are based on remarks made by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

**NORTHERN**

**ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)**

Manure being spread. Some spraying being done. A few fields still have some small areas with saturated soil.

**WESTERN**

**ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)**

Clear, spring-like weather with frosty mornings characterized the beginning of the week. Most of Rockbridge got 1/2 inch of rain Friday, bringing field work to a halt.

**BATH/HIGHLAND (John Benner)**

Green slowly coming back, but very little growth.

**CENTRAL**

**CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)**

Nothing unusual for this past week. The soil is moist, and not wet enough to restrict spraying and planting.

**FLUVANNA (Enrique Hernandez)**

Some low-lands still have standing water, and some higher fields are workable.

**APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)**

Grass is starting to green up. Cattle farmers are concerned about their winter feeding areas, and the best approach for repairing the damaged areas. Small grain looks extremely good. Tobacco greenhouses progressing well.

**EASTERN**

**KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)**

Nothing unusual for this past week. The soil is moist, and not wet enough to restrict spraying and planting.

**ESSEX/GLOUCESTER/KING AND QUEEN/KING WILLIAM/MIDDLESEX (Robert Longest)**

Overall, small grain crops look pretty good, and have been top dressed. Some fields have reduced stands and bare spots due to flooding and excessive rains last fall and throughout the winter. Corn planting just started last week, and many producers will be planting this week. Some pastures are still damaged from winter feeding and livestock treading, which was worsened by excessive rainfall. Many producers are still dealing with washouts on farms, but repairs are ongoing.

**SOUTHWESTERN**

**SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)**

Farmers are reseeding pastures that have been overgrazed, or used as sacrifice areas due to slower grass growth and cooler temps. Farmers are actively spreading fertilizer and lime, trying to catch up. First set of petal fall on strawberries, expect picking to start in about 45 days.

**SOUTHERN**

**LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)**

The sun has been great. We would carefully ask for a little more moisture though. Tobacco beds are being prepared. Cole crops are going in the ground. Wheat is growing.

**FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)**

Farmers are out in masses spreading manure and preparing fields. Some rain last week helped with dry top soil. Because of wet weather, lots of pasture land was torn up by livestock.

**SOUTHEASTERN**

**BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)**

Some producers had a chance to work up land this past week. Small grains are coming along. Fall calves are growing. Grass is trying to green up with up and down temperatures. Tobacco plants are coming up in the greenhouses.